



Protect Yourself from Fraud



If you are home during the day, you are more likely to meet door-to-door salesperson. While some door-to-door salespersons are honest, the chances exist that whoever answers the door is about to be ripped off. Door-to-door salespersons are charming and friendly. They are successful because they seem to be honest.

Be on the Lookout for Door to Door Solicitors Who..

- Greet you by name to seem friendly.
- Use tricks to get into your home – they may imply they are from your alarm company and need to test or upgrade your alarm system – reputable alarm companies will not send technicians to your home unannounced.
- Say they want to upgrade your old or outdated security systems.
- Say that you need to take advantage of the offer TODAY – reputable alarm companies will provide you with the time you need to carefully consider your purchase, and Maryland law gives you three business days to change your mind on any contract signed in your home.
- Say that the system you have is vulnerable or can be disabled easily – they do not know what type of alarm system you have, so cannot make this claim
- Say that their system does not use a phone line.
- Say that it is not necessary to contact your alarm company prior to having another alarm company work on your security system.



Check the Licenses

The best safeguard against faulty and hazardous work is to make sure the company you hire has a **valid license** from the Maryland State Police. Do **NOT** accept a **company ID card**. Ask to see their license, which should look like the sample on the left. If the door-to-door sales person cannot produce this license, DO NOT conduct business with them. Ask the person

to immediately leave your property and call the police if they refuse.

Frederick County requires door-to-door salespersons to obtain a Solicitor's license from the Frederick County Court House. The Frederick County False Alarm Reduction Unit also issues an Alarm Business License to every alarm company conducting business with the County. Ask for the license number it will begin with an F and have four digits.

Avoid Having Your Service Switched and being double-billed.

Unfortunately, if you sign a contract without checking all the details, you may end up paying two companies for the same service. **Before** they do any work, **check the license, call your alarm company and, or call the False Alarm Reduction Unit.**